

Kilowatts Plus

Power Industry Says Demand Met With 5 Per Cent Margin

Refutation of official claims that a critical power shortage exists is implicit in an Edison Electric Institute survey, based on reports of 90 per cent of the industry, which shows that the electric light and power industry met December's peak demand for

electricity, the highest electric load in history, with a generating capacity margin of 5 per cent to spare.

This reserve margin of 5 per cent was the same as the previous year and substantially above the 4 per cent margin indicated by the Institute's September survey. It was more than three times greater than the 1.6 per cent "safety margin" predicted in a report of the National Security Resources Board released on Dec. 13.

A major factor in providing this additional margin of capability was the installation of over 4,000,000 kilowatts of new generating capacity during 1948, a record for a single year. Partly responsible for the greater-than-calculated margin, however, was a slight leveling off of demand which took place in nearly all parts of the country during the last quarter of 1948.

No margin existed in the Pacific Northwest, where Federal power projects are now counted on for new sources of supply, and peak load equalled capacity. A margin of 2.3 per cent was general throughout the central industrial region from Pittsburgh to the Mississippi River. All other sections of the nation had reserve margins of 5 per cent or more.

Seabees

Navy Seeking 75,000 Men as Reservists

The Navy today launched a drive for 75,000 skilled construction men as a standby reserve organization of Seabees.

Recruits enlist in the inactive Volunteer Reserve for call to active duty only in the event of a national emergency. They are assigned to Naval Construction Battalions for training in the technique of high-speed advance base building, for which the Seabees were famed in World War II.

Approximately 60 different construction trades are represented in the Seabee organization. These skills are combined into 14 Navy ratings in the V-6 program. The construction ratings, created since the war, are:

Surveyor, construction electrician (general), construction electrician (lineman), construction electrician (communications lineman), driver (equipment operator), mechanic (diesel engine), builder (light construction), builder (heavy construction), builder (structural), utilities man, and two non-rated classifications: construction man and construction apprentice.

"In the event of a national emergency, a skilled construction man will thus assure himself of the type of duty for which his experience and training best fit him, said Rear Admiral John Manning, who directed Seabee work. "In other words, he knows he will be a square peg in a square hole."

Services of 'Joe College' Sold to Chest

With Joe Noble, El Camino College cheer leader as auctioneer and Jack Chromister, stellar Warrior football halfback as clerk, an auction was held on El Camino College campus for the benefit of American charitable organizations last Friday. Unusual feature of the auction was that services of pledges to the various campus social organizations were the "items" put up for sale. Approximately 10 dollars was obtained from college students for the privilege of having pledges of Sigma Phi Kappa, Gamma Phi Delta, Kappa Theta and Phi Sigma Upsilon carry textbooks and act as caddies and other similar tasks.

El Camino College students who participated in a two-day campus drive to raise funds for allocations to Community Chest and other service organizations welcomed the gift raised in this unusual way.

College Gives English Test

Students who expect to enroll in El Camino College during the registration period Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 and 2 for the spring semester classes should take the English placement examination which is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 22 at 9:30 a.m. in the college administration building.

Any student who has not previously completed a college English course and expects to enroll in the spring semester must take this English classification test. Those who pass the test will be assigned to the college English course, while those who fail the test will complete a semester of English review before entering regular college English.

Income Tax Class Formed

As part of the college's community services to individual taxpayers El Camino College is offering a course in income tax computation. The course will meet one evening for three weeks. The first meeting of the class will be held Monday, Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. on the college campus at Crenshaw and Redondo Beach boulevards. Each of the three meetings will consist of a one-hour lecture which will deal with actual income tax computations.

Ideals are like stars; you will not succeed in touching them with your hands. But like seafaring men on the desert of waters, you choose them as your guides, and, following them, you reach your destiny.—Carl Schurz.

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